

DEPENDABLE ARMY AIM SAY OFFICERS

System of Military Justice Designed to Create Strong Fighting Force say Officers From Field.

CIVIL JUSTICE IS DIFFERENT

Glen Sees Difference Between Civil and Military Procedure in Testimony Before Bar Committee

WASHINGTON. April 17.—The spirit of military jurisdiction is gaining in producing an efficient, dependable fighting army, not to do exact justice to individual soldiers according to the views presented to the members of the American bar association by army officers of field and staff, including Edward F. Glenn, organizer and commander of the 1st division and now in command of Camp Sherman. In attaining that objective, the officers considered the present machinery for fulfilling the aims had proven efficient and fair, the final product of the system closely approximating justice to the individual in addition to producing what General Glenn declared was the best disciplined army in France.

Admit Ridiculous.

Cases of court-martial sentences so excessive in the penalty awarded as to be ridiculous were freely admitted by the officers. Such sentences only served, General Glenn insisted, to make the law in the early stages of the military legal procedure the action of the courts is in no case final, and that fairness was the general rule.

Judge Gregory, chairman of the committee, and General Glenn engaged in considerable argument which brought out that the officer, speaking before the committee, had military experience, and his special training in civil law was little in common because the purposes of civil justice and its military equivalent.

Major Charles H. Macdonald, General Glenn's divisional judge advocate at Camp Sherman but who is a temporary officer and before the war was counsel for the federal commission, followed the chief and espoused the same views.

Not Looking for Exact Justice.

"You are not looking for exact justice," Major Macdonald declared, "when you are building the army the size of the United States was building. Suppose men did get sentences of 20 to 40 years, the discharges were suspended and they went to the discipline barracks, probably to be restored to service if they were worthy of restoration."

"There is of course," Major Macdonald added, "some room for improvement. There always is in any system of law or taxation, but the army justice system is a very efficient machine. We have felt that we could attend to the question of exact justice after the war."

The officer submitted a record of 13 general court-martial cases tried at Camp Sherman. He called attention to one sentence of 25 years imposed on a man who refused to obey a lawful order from an officer. On the face of the record, the sentence seemed excessive, but was justified by facts and as reviewed by the judge advocate he had regretted only that the prison term had not been longer, he said, in explaining the case, he told the committee he could not work at the base hospital on a Saturday during the influenza epidemic and refused on account of religious scruples, claiming that he was a member of a faith that met that day aside for worship.

On that particular Saturday, the officer said, there had been 140 deaths at the hospital and there were hundreds of very sick men to care for.

The opposing views held in the service will be available to the committee next Monday when Lieut. Col. Samuel T. Ansell, former judge advocate general and the leading figure in the criticism, has been directed against the court-martial system, will appear.

MRS. WATSON GETS WRIT AGAINST COUNTY CLERK

A petition for writ of mandamus to compel the judge of the county court to allow her to appeal from a decision of the court to the district court was filed in the latter court yesterday by Mrs. Gladys Watson against Judge W. B. Williams of the county court.

Mrs. Watson alleges that on April 9 Judge Williams denied an application of this plaintiff for expenditure of money from the estate of Benjamin Vance, Jr., her minor son, for the purpose of purchasing an automobile and further denied her the right and refused to accept a bond for appeal from the decision to the district court. The county court refused to allow the appeal without mandamus proceedings, according to the petitioner.

INDIAN OFFICE APPROVES WELSH QUAPAW MINE LEASE

World's Capital Bureau, St. Louis.

WASHINGTON. April 17.—The office today rendered opinion in the case of the Welsh Mining company, which asked a permit to lease a claim from Thomas Buffalo and Buffalo Calf Quapaw, of Ottawa county.

The bureau agreed to let the lease on condition that all sub-leases be taken care of and the total royalty not exceed 20 per cent, the Indians' part to be based on the quality of the lead and zinc ore and the selling price.

MRS. DREYFUSS GETS A DIVORCE; \$15,000 ALIMONY

A decree of divorce and \$15,668 alimony were awarded to Annie Dreyfuss from Henry Dreyfuss in the divorce court Thursday. Attorney fees of \$500 were also included in the decree.

The wife had charged cruelty and the suit was not contested except in the filing of a formal answer to the woman's petition. A lien against real estate owned by Dreyfuss secures the alimony.

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